

XV. *Lepidoptera from the Chatham Islands.*

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THE following species of *Lepidoptera* were collected in the Chatham Islands by Mr. J. Fourgère, and transmitted to Professor Hutton, of Christchurch, New Zealand, who placed them in my hands for determination. Little or nothing seems to have been known previously of the *Lepidoptera* of this outlying group of the New Zealand system, and it is exceedingly desirable that no time should be lost in securing representatives of those to be found there. They are probably not numerous, but search should be especially made in those parts of the islands which are furthest removed from the influence of settlement, and also particularly on the highest points, however bleak and exposed these may appear to be.

The present consignment appears to contain 19 species, of which however one is not in a condition to be accurately determined. Of the remaining 18 species, 7 are new to science, 7 are common New Zealand species which are not at all likely to have been introduced by man (two of these occur also in Australia and Tasmania), and 4 are semi-domestic species of more or less wide distribution which have doubtless been artificially imported. The 7 new species are all of characteristic New Zealand genera, and obviously related to New Zealand species of these genera, so that, so far as herein appears, the islands are simply a detached portion of New Zealand.

CARADRINIDÆ.

1. *Leucania propria*, Walk.

One specimen, in poor condition, but apparently normal.

2. *Melanchra bromias*, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 34-36 m.m. Head and thorax grey, sometimes whitish-mixed, variably tinged with brownish or reddish, and indistinctly

marked irregularly with blackish streaks. Antennæ in ♂ shortly bipectinated to $\frac{3}{4}$. Abdomen light grey, sometimes ochreous-tinged. Forewings moderately dilated, costa almost straight, apex obtuse, termen crenulate, obliquely rounded; grey, partially whitish-sprinkled, variably and irregularly tinged with purple-brownish, median band and terminal area darker; a short black median longitudinal streak from base; a short similar parallel streak from dorsum near base, sometimes obsolete; first and second lines slender, blackish, waved, nearly obsolete on upper half, fairly distinct and rather nearly approximated on lower half; spots outlined with black, more or less rosy-brownish, especially reniform, orbicular and reniform sometimes whitish-edged, orbicular semi-oval, incomplete above, claviform subtriangular; subterminal line white, sometimes interrupted or partially obsolete, with one prominent dentation below middle (on vein 3), near dorsum more conspicuous and preceded by a triangular dark fuscous spot, elsewhere edged with smaller dark fuscous spots: cilia fuscous, mixed with dark fuscous, and indistinctly barred with whitish. Hindwings light fuscous, darker terminally; cilia whitish, with cloudy dark fuscous line.

Four specimens. Nearest to *M. mutans*, with which it agrees in the rather peculiar character of the single prominent dentation of subterminal line, but darker and duller-coloured, without the black supraternal streak of that species, and differing also by the blackish posterior margin of reniform.

3. *Melanchra composita*, Guen.

Five specimens.

HYDRIOMENIDÆ.

4. *Xanthorhoe roscaria*, Dbld.

One specimen (♂); somewhat peculiar, median band of forewings strongly marked with dark fuscous, its posterior edge more approximately parallel to termen than in any of my New Zealand specimens; in the absence of further material I am disposed to regard it as a local form only.

5. *Xanthorhoe homalocyma*, n. sp.

♂ 24-28 m.m., ♀ 22-26 m.m. Head and thorax pale ochreous, more or less sprinkled or tinged with fuscous. Antennal pectinations of ♂ long (*a* 6, *b* 8). Forewings triangular, apex obtuse, termen

oblique, gently rounded, slightly waved; pale ochreous, sometimes fuscous-tinged, sometimes sprinkled with whitish or dark fuscous; numerous waved brownish-ochreous or fuscous striae, usually faint in ♂ but more distinct in ♀; edge of basal area angulated near costa, in ♂ sometimes blackish-marked in middle and on dorsum; third and fourth fasciae (limiting median band) usually darker-suffused, in ♂ sometimes blackish-marked on external edge towards middle and on dorsum, anterior edge curved, posterior slightly prominent in middle and beneath costa; on each side of median band are somewhat paler fasciae, in which veins are often marked with white, and more or less conspicuously dotted with black; a transverse black discal dot; termen sometimes darker-suffused, especially in ♀, limited above by an oblique dark apical streak: cilia pale ochreous, with two cloudy fuscous lines. Hindwings light grey, sometimes ochreous-tinged; posterior edge of median band sometimes indicated by a faint darker angulated shade; sometimes one or two darker subterminal striae; cilia as in forewings.

Twenty-seven specimens. Somewhat intermediate between *X. rosearia* and *X. subductata*; markings much as in *subductata*, but forewings without the characteristic yellow-greenish mixture, and posterior edge of median band much less prominent in middle. It also approaches the larger Tasmanian *X. centroneura*, which however is reddish-tinged, and has distinct band of median striae on hindwings, besides other differences.

6. *X. lucidata*, Walk.

Three specimens, somewhat large and pale, but not otherwise different.

SELIDOSEMIDÆ.

7. *Selidosema ombrodes*, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 32-36 m.m. Head and thorax varying from fuscous to brownish-ochreous. Antennal pectinations in ♂ very long (16), extending to near apex. Abdomen pale ochreous-yellowish, sprinkled with fuscous, in ♂ rather elongate. Legs rather dark fuscous, ringed with whitish-ochreous, posterior tibiæ in ♂ little dilated. Forewings rather elongate-triangular, costa moderately arched, apex obtuse, termen somewhat oblique, rounded; light ochreous, more or less largely suffused with brown, and strigulated with dark fuscous; first and second lines dark fuscous, usually indistinct, first strongly curved, second somewhat irregular, hardly curved on upper $\frac{3}{4}$,

thence obliquely bent inwards; an indistinct transverse blackish discal mark; usually a pale costal spot beyond second line; in one ♀ conspicuous pale fasciæ on each side of median band; subterminal line indistinct, sometimes partially whitish, waved-dentate: cilia rather dark fuscous. Hindwings with termen rounded, gently waved; rather light grey, indistinctly strigulated with darker; cilia pale grey.

Eight specimens. Not to be confused with any other; perhaps nearest allied to *S. productata*, but larger and more sombre, and distinguished from it and all similar New Zealand species by the grey hindwings; the very long antennal pectinations of ♂ are also noticeable.

CRAMBIDÆ.

8. *Crambus ramosellus*, Dbld.

One specimen; much damaged, but does not appear to differ from typical examples.

9. *Crambus horistes*, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 21–26 m.m. Head and thorax pale greyish-ochreous, with some white scales. Labial palpi 4, greyish-ochreous, white towards base beneath. Forewings with apex tolerably rectangular, termen nearly straight, rather oblique, rounded beneath; pale brownish-ochreous; a rather broad straight snow-white longitudinal streak above middle from base to termen, extremity extended upwards to apex, sometimes yellowish-tinged towards base; costal area above this wholly rather dark brown: cilia pale ochreous, suffusedly barred with white. Hindwings whitish-fuscous; cilia white, with a faint subbasal whitish-fuscous line.

Four specimens. Allied to *C. flectuosellus* (no other species has the sharply contrasted dark costal and light dorsal areas), but easily distinguished by the absence of the characteristic dark spots on lower edge of white streak, and by the hindwings not being yellowish.

PYRAUSTIDÆ.

10. *Mecyna marmarina*, Meyr.

Four specimens; normal in all respects. I now regard *Mnesictena*, formed as a genus to include this species and its allies, as properly a group of *Mecyna*.

11. *Mecyna pantheropa*, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 25–26 m.m. Head and thorax light yellow-ochreous, sometimes mixed with reddish-fuscous or whitish. Labial palpi 4–4½, yellow-ochreous mixed with fuscous, beneath white towards base. Legs whitish, anterior tibiae infuscated. Forewings rather elongate-triangular, costa gently arched, apex almost rectangular, termen slightly bowed, oblique; orange, variably mixed with reddish-fuscous or dark fuscous, especially on veins, in two specimens wholly suffused with fuscous; extreme costal edge sometimes whitish in middle; markings reddish-brown, mixed or suffused with dark grey; a suffusion along basal $\frac{1}{4}$ of costa, sometimes extending basally to dorsum; first line irregularly curved, second denticulate, forming a strong subquadrate loop inwards below middle, space between them wholly suffused with dark except along costa and on a band preceding upper half of second line; sometimes a sharply defined irregular transverse or rhomboidal clear white discal spot at middle, but in three specimens this is not indicated; a moderate terminal fascia, suffusedly projecting inwards opposite loop of second line; cilia dark grey, tips pale and reddish-tinged. Hindwings whitish-yellowish, becoming whitish towards costa; dorsal area more or less suffused with grey (in one specimen the whole wing grey except costa); two dark grey discal dots very obliquely placed; sometimes a grey postmedian line; a suffused dark grey terminal fascia, sometimes very narrow or obsolete except at apex; a terminal series of dark grey dots; cilia rosy-whitish, with an indistinct grey line.

Seven specimens. Very variable; nearest to *M. flavidalis*, but always without the yellow quadrate spot in middle of disc of forewings (always present in *flavidalis*), and also distinguished from both *flavidalis* and *marmarina* by the much longer palpi; readily separated from *notata* by the dark median band and terminal fascia.

12. *Scoparia*, sp.

One specimen of a species allied to *S. cyameuta*, but in very poor condition and unfit for determination.

13. *Scoparia leptophæa*, n. sp.

♀. 19–21 m.m. Head and thorax light fuscous, with some whitish scales. Labial palpi 3½, fuscous, white towards base beneath. Forewings very narrow, apex rounded-obtuse, termen obliquely rounded; fuscous-whitish, densely irrorated with fuscous and sprinkled with

dark fuscous; first and second lines formed by black irroration, very indistinct, first nearly straight, rather strongly oblique, second angulated above middle, indented beneath costa, followed on costa by a cloudy whitish spot; spots formed by black irroration, very undefined, orbicular remote from first line, claviform obliquely before orbicular, near first line, discal cloudy: cilia fuscous-whitish, with subbasal and postmedian cloudy fuscous lines. Hindwings $1\frac{2}{3}$, pale fuscous, becoming darker towards termen; cilia whitish, with fuscous basal line.

Seven specimens, all in bad condition. An obscure species, but quite distinct from anything else; by the form of the narrow forewings it is probably most allied to *S. psammitis*.

PTEROPHORIDÆ.

14. *Platyptilia aolodes*, n. sp.

♂ ♀. 17-22 m.m. Head, palpi, and thorax ochreous, variably mixed with whitish and reddish-fuscous, frontal tuft 1; palpi nearly 4. Middle tibiae distinctly tufted in middle and at apex. Forewings with apex produced, termen prominently angulated on vein 3 (middle of second segment); reddish-brown, varying to light reddish-ochreous, variably mixed with whitish and dark fuscous; costa darker, strigulated with whitish; a dark reddish-brown subtriangular spot on costa at $\frac{2}{3}$, anteriorly undefined, its apex touching a blackish transverse dot before fissure, posteriorly followed by more or less ochreous-whitish suffusion; subterminal line sharply dentate, ochreous-whitish, usually nearly obsolete, but in one specimen in which the terminal area is suffused with dark reddish-brown very conspicuous: cilia reddish-fuscous, barred with whitish, on termen with tips beyond a blackish median line whitish, on dorsum with numerous small projections of black scales and a larger black scale-tooth at $\frac{2}{3}$. Hindwings fuscous: cilia whitish-fuscous, with indistinct darker median line on termen; on dorsum with rather large undefined black scale-tooth scarcely beyond middle of third segment, and numerous black-tipped projecting scales between this and base.

Six specimens. Varies considerably in colour; nearest allied to *P. falcatalis*, but smaller and darker, and readily distinguished by the prominent angulation of termen of second segment of forewings (in *falcatalis* the margin is somewhat bent but not angulated), and the principal dorsal scale-tuft of hindwings being hardly beyond the middle, whereas in *falcatalis* it is much broader and is considerably beyond the middle.

TORTRICIDÆ.

15. *Cacœcia excessana*, Walk.

Four specimens, showing considerable variation.

ECOPHORIDÆ.

16. *Borkhausenia* (*Ecophora*) *pseudospretella*, Stt.

Four specimens. Artificially introduced.

TINEIDÆ.

17. *Trichophaga tapeticella*, L.

One specimen. This and the two following species are also hangers-on of man, and have been brought in by him.

18. *Monopis ethelella*, Newm.

Six specimens; normal.

19. *Tinca terranea*, Butl.

Six specimens.

